AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior listings.

1. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A composite leaf spring comprising:

a forward leaf spring segment comprising an arcuate segment extending therefrom,

a rearward leaf spring segment, said forward leaf spring segment thicker in depth than said rearward leaf spring segment, said rearward leaf spring segment includes a substantially planar member of constant width and said forward leaf spring segment is thinner in width than said rearward leaf spring segment; and

a mounting segment intermediate said forward leaf spring segment and said rearward leaf spring segment wherein said mounting segment includes a tapering width and an expanding depth such that any cross-section perpendicular to the mounting segment and within said mounting segment provides a singular cross-sectional shape.

2. (CANCELLED)

3. (ORIGINAL) The composite leaf spring as recited in claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein any cross-section taken perpendicular to the mounting segment and within said mounting segment defines a substantially equivalent cross-sectional area.

4. (ORIGINAL) The composite leaf spring as recited in claim 1, wherein said forward leaf spring segment, said mounting segment and said rearward leaf spring segment define a non-linear member.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composite leaf spring as recited in claim 1, wherein said arcuate segment defines a hook.

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composite leaf spring as recited in claim 1, wherein said arcuate segment defines a bend of at least ninety degrees to said mounting segment.

7. (CANCELLED)

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A suspension system comprising:

a composite leaf spring comprising a forward leaf spring segment defining an arcuate segment, a rearward leaf spring segment including a substantially planar member of constant width, and a mounting segment intermediate said forward leaf spring segment and said rearward leaf spring segment, said forward leaf spring segment is thinner in width and thicker in depth than said rearward leaf spring segment, said mounting segment includes a tapering width and an expanding depth such that any cross-section perpendicular to the mounting segment and within said mounting segment provides a singular cross-sectional shape; and

a forward attachment system comprising a retaining pin transverse to said composite leaf spring and engaged with said arcuate segment.

9. (ORIGINAL) The suspension system as recited in claim 8, wherein said retaining pin comprises a shank at least partially surrounded by a resilient tube.

10. (ORIGINAL) The suspension system as recited in claim 8, wherein said retaining pin comprises a threaded fastener.

11. (ORIGINAL) The suspension system as recited in claim 8, wherein said retaining pin engages an inner arc of said arcuate segment.

12. (ORIGINAL) The suspension system as recited in claim 11, further comprising a bumper engaged with an outer arc of said arcuate segment to trap said arcuate segment therebetween.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The suspension system as recited in claim 12, wherein said bumper comprises an arcuate surface engaged with said outer arc of said arcuate segment.

14. (ORIGINAL) The suspension system as recited in claim 13, wherein said bumper comprises a serpentine surface engaged to a complimentary fixed serpentine surface opposite said arcuate segment.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The suspension system as recited in claim 8, further comprising a tubular resilient member molded to ~~said~~ an inner arc of said arcuate segment.

16. (ORIGINAL) The suspension system as recited in claim 8, further comprising a C-shaped bracket to retain said retaining pin.

17-23. (CANCELED)

24. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A suspension system comprising:

a composite leaf spring comprising a forward leaf spring segment defining an arcuate segment, a rearward leaf spring segment, and a mounting segment intermediate said forward leaf spring segment and said rearward leaf spring segment;

a forward attachment system comprising a retaining pin transverse to said composite leaf spring and engaged with said arcuate segment, said retaining pin engaged with an inner arc of said arcuate segment; and

a bumper engaged with an outer arc of said arcuate segment to trap said arcuate segment therebetween, said bumper includes an arcuate surface engaged with said outer arc of said arcuate segment and a serpentine surface engaged to a complimentary fixed serpentine surface opposite said arcuate segment.

25. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A suspension system comprising:

a composite leaf spring comprising a forward leaf spring segment defining an arcuate segment, a rearward leaf spring segment, and a mounting segment intermediate said forward leaf spring segment and said rearward leaf spring segment;

a bracket defining an bracket opening to receive said arcuate segment;

a retaining pin attached to said bracket transverse to said composite leaf spring and across said opening to engage an inner arc of said arcuate segment;

a bumper retained within said bracket and engaged with an outer arc of said arcuate segment to trap said arcuate segment between said bumper and said retaining pin, said bumper including a serpentine surface engaged to a complimentary fixed serpentine surface of said bracket.

26-29. (CANCELED).

30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composite leaf spring as recited in claim 8, wherein said arcuate member defines a hook.

31. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composite leaf spring as recited in claim 8, wherein said arcuate member defines a bend of at least ninety degrees relative to said mounting segment.

32-33. (CANCELED)